The California Community College Chancellor’s Office writes the laws and guidelines for establishing in-state residency reclassification for all California Community Colleges (California Education code sections 68000-68075 and California Code of Regulations, Title 5 § 54020-54024). Residency status is determined by the information provided by the student on the Application for Admission. Students who do not meet California residency requirements will be classified as nonresidents for tuition purposes.

Physical presence within California solely for educational purposes does not allow a student to establish residence, regardless of the length of time present in the state (EC 68043, T5 54022(c).

The student is required to present evidence in accordance with Education Code Section 68040 et. seq. The documents presented must be valid and legible. A Residency Questionnaire and evidence of documentation must be submitted prior to the beginning of the semester for which the student seeks reclassification. The burden of proof to clearly demonstrate physical presence, intent, and financial independence lies solely with the student.

In order to be considered for in-state residency reclassification, it is required that there be a union of act and intent: 1) physical presence; 2) evidence of intent to make California your permanent state of residency for other than temporary purpose; and 3) financial independence.

**CALIFORNIA RESIDENCY WILL BE GRANTED IF ALL OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA ARE MET:**

1. Evidence of physical presence in California for one year and one day prior to the residence determination date by providing documentation of continuous occupancy of rented or leased property in California or utility bill with a California residence.

2. Evidence of financial independence by providing state and federal tax returns where the student has not and will not be claimed as an exemption by his or her parent in the calendar year prior to the year the reclassification application is made.

3. Evidence of intent to make California the home for other than a temporary purpose by maintaining a California driver’s license or California ID.

If all of the above criteria are not met, the student may provide additional evidence of intent to make California their home for other than temporary purposes. To do so the student must provide evidence for #1 above and four (4) items from the list below. Items must be obtained/dated by December 31st for residency classification the following fall semester and by May 31st for residency classification the following spring semester. The Residency Questionnaire, evidence and a written narrative describing their intent must be submitted to the Admissions and Records Office prior to the start of the semester for which the student seeks reclassification. The Residency Committee, whose membership includes the Chief Student Services Officer, Chief Instructional Officer, and Registrar, will then determine if there is a sufficient union of act and intent by reviewing the coupling of his/her physical presence in California with objective evidence of intent, along with a personal explanation of how the student’s evidence and intent fit together.
Objective manifestations of intent to establish California residence include, but are not limited to:

1. Evidence of financial independence by providing state and federal tax returns where the student has not and will not be claimed as an exemption by his or her parent in the calendar year prior to the year the reclassification application is made;
2. Evidence of intent to make California the home for other than a temporary purpose by maintaining a California driver's license or California ID.
3. Ownership of residential property or continuous occupancy of rented or leased property in California.
4. Registering to vote and voting in California.
5. Licensing from California for professional practice.
6. Active membership in California professional, religious, merchant, or service organizations or social clubs.
7. Presence of spouse, children, or other close relatives in the state.
8. Showing California as home address on federal income tax forms.
9. Payment of California state income tax as a resident.
10. Maintaining California motor vehicle license plates/registration.
11. Maintaining permanent military address, or home of record in California while in armed forces.
12. Establishing and maintaining active California bank accounts.
14. Remaining in California during academic breaks.
15. Registering for the Selective Service in California (indicating California address)
16. Other: _____________________________________________________________________________________

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Right To Appeal – Students who have been classified as non-residents have the right to a review of their classification (Title 5 Section 54010 (a)). Any student, following a final decision of residence classification by the Admissions Office, may make written appeal to the Superintendent/President within 30 calendar days of notification of final decision by the college regarding classification.

Appeal Procedure – The appeal is to be submitted to the Admissions Office which must forward it to the Superintendent/President within five working days of receipt. Copies of the original application for admission, the residency questionnaire, and evidence or documentation provided by the student, with a cover statement indicating upon what basis the residence classification decision was made, must be forwarded with the appeal.

The Superintendent/President shall review all the records and have the right to request additional information from either the student or the Admissions Office.

Within 30 calendar days of receipt, the Superintendent/President shall send a written determination to the student. The determination shall state specific facts on which the appeal decision was made.

Reclassification – A student previously classified as a non-resident may be reclassified as of any residence determination date. A residence determination date is that day immediately preceding the opening day of instruction for any session during which the student proposes to attend.

Petitions are to be submitted to the Admissions Office.

Petitions must be submitted prior to the semester for which reclassification is to be effective. Extenuating circumstances may be considered in cases where a student failed to petition for reclassification prior to the residency determination date. In no case, however, may a student receive a non-resident tuition refund after the date of the first census.

Written documentation may be required of the student in support of the reclassification request.

Determination of financial independence is not required for students who were classified as non-residents by the University of California, the California State University, or another community college District (Education Code Section 68044).

The Residency Committee will make a determination, based on the evidence and notify the student not later than 14 days of receipt of the petition for reclassification.

Students have the right to appeal according to the procedures above.

Non-Citizens – The District will admit any non-citizen who is 18 years of age or a high school graduate.

If non-citizens are present in the United States illegally or with any type of temporary visa, they will be classified as non-residents and charged non-resident tuition unless they meet the exceptions contained below.
If, for at least one year and one day prior to the start of the semester in question, a non-citizen has possessed any immigration status that allows him/her to live permanently in the United States and she or he meets the California residency requirements, the student can be classified as a resident.

Any students who are U.S. citizens, permanent residents of the U.S., and aliens who are not nonimmigrants (including those who are undocumented), may be exempt from paying nonresident tuition if they meet the following requirements:

- high school attendance in California for three or more years;
- graduation from a California high school or attainment of the equivalent thereof;
- registration or enrollment in a course offered by any college in the District for any term commencing on or after January 1, 2002,
- completion of a questionnaire form prescribed by the State Chancellor and furnished by the District of enrollment, verifying eligibility for this nonresident tuition exemption; and
- in the case of a student without lawful immigration status, the filing of an affidavit that the student has filed an application to legalize his/her immigration status, or will file an application as soon as he/she is eligible to do so.

The initial residency classification will be made at the time the student applies for admission. Students may file residency questionnaire forms through the third week of the semester to request a review of their residency status. Final residency determination is made by the Residency Committee. Students may appeal the decision.

I certify that the information I have provided is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. All materials submitted by me for purposes of residency evaluation become the property of Feather River College. I understand falsifying information about citizenship, California residency, financial aid, financial independence from my parents, and/or military status could result in: 1) criminal charges for perjury and/or fraud and, if convicted, imprisonment; 2) student disciplinary action; and/or 3) accumulated monetary charges such as for restitution or nonpayment of nonresident tuition fees. If your request for reclassification has been denied and you believe you have been classified incorrectly, you may submit a written appeal to the Chief Student Services Officer. Appeals have to be filed within 30 calendar days of being notified about your classification.

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